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REPORT NO.COUNTRY East GermanyTOPIC Military Information from MagdeburgEVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 24 September to 9 October 1953DATE OBTAINED 25X1ADATE PREPARED 28 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

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1. On 9 October 1953, the Flak Kaserne in Magdeburg was occupied by about 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Seven 76-mm AA guns, radar sets and 18 37-mm AA guns were seen in the barracks area.

2. On 9 October, the Seeckt Kaserne and the Nachrichten Kaserne were occupied by guard details, while the Encke Kaserne was occupied to capacity. Motor vehicles were seen en route to and from the Encke Kaserne.

3. On 9 October, the Herrenkrug Kaserne was occupied by 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. On 1 October, a column of 38 trucks were seen in the barracks area.

4. On 9 October, the Anger Kaserne was occupied by about 60 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and olive-drab epaulets. Eight sidecar motorcycles were seen in the barracks area.

5. On 9 October, the Zuckerbusch Kaserne was occupied by about 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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6. On 5 October, about 25 trucks, including and 4 AT guns were seen entering the Nachrichten Kaserne from the direction of Elmstedt. At about 2 p.m. on 5 October, 4 trucks, including and 25X1B carrying billeting equipment, were passing the northern road bridge, proceeding in an eastern direction. At 5:45 p.m. on the same day, they were followed by about 10 trucks, and 4 AT guns. 25X1B

At 7:45 p.m. on 5 October, about 15 T-34/85 tanks were detrained at the Magdeburg-Friedrichstadt railroad station and subsequently moved to the northeast corner of the Nachrichten Kaserne. On 1 October, columns of empty trucks kept passing over the northern road bridge toward west throughout the day; they returned loaded. Motor vehicles were seen on 5 October, a train carrying 3 passed the northern railroad another shipment at 6:10 p.m.

7. On 5 October, a reinforced fatigue detail was reconditioning the quarters in the Nachrichten Kaserne.

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25X1A

- 2 -

25X1 8. On 5 October, the Herrenkrug Kaserne was occupied almost to capacity. Eleven T-34/85 tanks, [redacted] and about 50 sidecar motorcycles were in the barracks area, and 10 trucks on blocks were in a shed.

9. On 5 October, the Flak Kaserne and the Encke Kaserne were lightly occupied, while the Seeckt Kaserne was occupied by a rear detail.¹

25X1 10. At 4:15 p.m. on 8 October, a train carrying about 40 trucks and 10 jeeps [redacted] and including several boxcars was seen at the Biederitz railroad station, headed toward Magdeburg and ready to leave. The vehicles looked clean.

11. On 8 October, each one empty train of about 20 flatcars and several boxcars was assembled at the Koenigsborn, Proedel and Gueterglueck railroad stations in the afternoon.

25X1X 12. Between 24 September and 4 October, an emplacement with 85-mm AA guns, a range finder, 3 searchlights, and 1 radar mounted on a truck was seen east of the Flak Kaserne. A command post with radar sets and direction finder station was about 250 meters northeast of the emplacement. On 2 October, source observed an exercise, which was directed by a general and was held near the emplacement. About 30 field-grade officers were seen at the command post. Three U-2 biplanes, which circled over the command post at an altitude of 700 to 2000 meters and at distance of 4 to 5 km represented the enemy aircraft. Fire was opened by the built-in 85-mm AA guns and was joined by the 76-mm AA guns. A low-level attack was answered by concentric fire by all guns, including the 37-mm AA guns. Subsequently, a field exercise was conducted in the training area, in which a strip of terrain was to be defended. Upon completion of the field exercises, about 60 officers and about 500 troops of the AAA units, carrying full pack including steel helmets and rolled blankets and armed with carbines and submachine guns, participated in a cross-country run. The exercise terminated at about 4 p.m. Between 24 September and 4 October, troops received instruction on 10 x 85 mm AA guns, 15 x 76-mm AA guns and 15 x 37-mm AA guns in the area of the Flak Kaserne. Trucks [redacted]

25X1B [redacted] were seen entering and leaving the installation.²

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25X1A. [redacted] Comment. The headquarters units of the Third Shock Army and the units of the 19th Gds Mecz Div, which had participated in the known exercises of the Third Shock Army, probably returned to the post prior to 9 October, so that, after 9 October, the Encke Kaserne and the Herrenkrug Kaserne can be carried occupied as prior to the beginning of the exercises. See [redacted], and

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25X1A [redacted]

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25X1 [redacted] the 112d Mtrcl Bn of the division in Magdeburg until 5 October 1953. No definite information has been obtained on the occupation of the Nachrichten Kaserne. Although the installation presumably was occupied not to capacity prior to 9 October, it is believed that, after the arrival there of advance details and a tank shipment, presumably of the 63d Gds Mecz Regt of the abovementioned division, the installation was at least partially occupied, which is also indicated by the preparations for an occupation observed on and after 5 October. Elements of the division were, however, believed to be still at Leuzling Heath, according to a report of 9 October. [redacted] according to information in the present report. The 36th Pcn Bridge Regt of the GDFG had not yet arrived at the post by 9 October.

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25X1A 2. [redacted] Comment. The trains may have carried units of the 10th Gds Tank Div, which, according to reports on transportation, on 7 trains transferred to Brandenburg from Leuzling Heath.

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